



MINUTES

Legislative Committee Regular Meeting

10:00 AM - January 28, 2019

City Hall Executive Briefing Room - Plaza 111, Sammamish, WA

Committee Members Present: Councilmember Ramiro Valderrama
Councilmember Pam Stuart
Councilmember Jason Ritchie

Councilmembers Pam Stuart and Jason Ritchie joined the meeting via teleconference.

Committee Members Absent:

Staff Present: City Manager Larry Patterson
Management Analyst Mike Sugg
Management Analyst Tammy Mueller
Administrative Assistant Amy Koehnen

CALL TO ORDER

Councilmember Ramiro Valderrama called the Legislative Committee meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Stickney, 22626 NE Inglewood Hill Rd, spoke regarding state legislation about zoning and the Growth Management Act.

Mary Wictor, 408 208th Ave NE, spoke regarding housing within the City of Sammamish, stormwater, and culverts.

TOPICS

Election: Election of Committee Chairperson

MOTION: Councilmember Jason Ritchie moved to Nominate Councilmember Ramiro Valderrama to the position of Chair of the Legislative Committee. Councilmember Pam Stuart seconded. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Councilmember Ramiro Valderrama was elected Chair of the Legislative Committee.

Discussion: Proposed Legislation Regarding Deannexation from a Park District

Management Analyst Mike Sugg briefed the Committee on the topic of addressing the double taxation which occurs when a city annexes an area that is part of a Park District. The City of Monroe is currently working with the WA Recreation and Park Association to develop legislation to address this issue, as shown in the packet material.

City lobbyist Nick Federici joined the meeting via teleconference and gave an update on the legislation's status, providing next step options to the Committee. The Committee held discussion and requested that the lobbyists provide a 1-page memo explaining the options to the full City Council for their consideration.

Discussion: Potential Legislation Regarding the Siting of RTA Facilities

Management Analyst Mike Sugg briefed the Committee on the topic. The Committee discussed whether this legislation was of interest to pursue. The Committee agreed that, if the park and ride could be de-coupled from the topic, it would be of interest.

Update: City Response to Proposed Legislation Regarding Minimum Density

Management Analyst Mike Sugg briefed the Committee on the topic, referring to the [memo in the packet](#). City lobbyist Luke Esser joined the meeting via teleconference and provided an update to the Committee on the topic. Discussion commenced.

- City lobbyists stated that legislators appear to support for the concept of state mandates regarding minimum density in general, just not how the legislation plans to accomplish it. This general support reportedly stems from a desire to address affordable housing issues by increasing density and the number of houses built. However, one of the City's specific concerns in the proposed legislation is regarding where density would be mandated, such as around parks and light rail stations, which does not suit Sammamish. A number of Sammamish parks are built around environmental critical areas and other such natural areas which are not suitable for dense development. The Committee discussed whether this case could be made to state lawmakers, perhaps showing a report with the number of "active" parks versus "passive" parks (i.e. nature preserves) and request that the language of "parks" be clarified with this "active/passive" park concept in mind.
- The current version of the proposed legislation also mandates a certain density around light rail stations. While light rail is not planned for Sammamish, this is still projected to affect Sammamish resident commutes through Issaquah and Redmond. The Committee requested that the lobbyists keep this in mind during future discussions on the topic in Olympia.
- The Committee advised that protecting Lake Sammamish in the event of higher density in the area be taken into consideration as well as public transit options within the City. The Committee requested that staff provide the full City Council the draft response to AWC to allow a chance to submit questions and input.
- Chair Valderrama requested that the minutes include a comment from the City lobbyists, which occurred at a previous lobbyist check-in call, that legislators have expressed that a city's willingness to accept growth is a factor when allocating funding for infrastructure.

Councilmember Jason Ritchie left the teleconference line, leaving the meeting.

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

Discuss agenda and strategy for trip to Olympia

TDRs

NEXT MEETING DATE(S)

February 6, 2019 - 9:00 am

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ramiro Valderrama adjourned the meeting at 10:51 am.